



INSIGHTS

108th Congress

November 18, 2003

*Also available on the FEMP Home Page at
www.eere.energy.gov/femp/resources/insights.html.*

Weekly Summary

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INSIGHTS is prepared expressly for the Department of Energy's Office of Federal Energy Management Programs (FEMP). The purpose of ***INSIGHTS*** is to provide FEMP management staff with timely information on legislative activities relevant to the program. ***INSIGHTS*** is prepared for FEMP by Energetics, Incorporated, (202) 479-2748.

I. WEEKLY SUMMARY

CONGRESSIONAL SCHEDULE

House

Action of interest in the House this week includes the following:

- Vote on *H.R. 6 – Energy Policy Act of 2003*
- Vote on *H. Rpt. 108-243 – FY 2004 Appropriations for Transportation, Treasury, and Independent Agencies*
- Vote on *H. Rpt. 108-357 – FY 2004 Appropriations for Energy and Water Development*

Senate

Action of interest in the Senate this week includes the following:

- Vote on *H.R. 6 – Energy Policy Act of 2003* (Tentative)
- *H.R. 2861/ S. 1584 – FY 2004 Appropriations for Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development*

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II. COMMITTEE ACTIVITY

HOUSE

Legislation

No new legislation of interest to report.

Summary of Hearings

No activities of interest to report.

SENATE

Legislation

No new legislation of interest to report.

Summary of Hearings

No activities of interest to report.

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STATUS OF FY 2004 APPROPRIATIONS

Continuing Resolution (CR) On November 7, the fourth CR was signed into law as *P.L. 108-017*, extending the operation of Federal programs without approved FY 2004 appropriations bill until November 21, 2003. To date, the following bills of interest have been approved by Congress:

- *P.L. 108-87 – FY 2004 Appropriations for Defense*
- *P.L. 108-90 – FY 2004 Appropriations for Homeland Security*
- *P.L. 108-108 – FY 2004 Appropriations for Interior and Related Agencies*
- *P.L. 108-__ – FY 2004 Appropriations for Military Construction* (pending Presidential signature)

Bills of interest pending Congressional approval include the following:

- *H.R. 2673/S. 1427 – FY 2004 Appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies* (pending conference committee report)
- *H.R. 2799/S. 1585 – FY 2004 Appropriations for Commerce, Justice, State, and the Judiciary* (pending Senate approval of S. 1485)
- *Conference Report H. Rpt. 108-357 – FY 2004 Appropriations for Energy and Water Development* (pending House and Senate approval)
- *H.R. 2660/S. 1356 - FY 2004 Appropriations for Labor, Housing and Urban Development, and Education* (pending conference committee report))
- *H.R. 2989/S. 1599 - FY 2004 Appropriations for Transportation, Treasury, and Independent Agencies* (pending conference committee report)
- *H.R. 2861/S. 1584 - FY 2004 Appropriations for Veterans' Affairs, Housing and Urban Development, and Independent Agencies* (pending Senate approval of S. 1584)

CONFERENCE COMMITTEES/VOTES

H.R. 6 - Energy Policy Act of 2003 On Monday, November 17, the **Conference Committee for H.R. 6, approved the latest draft of comprehensive energy legislation.** In keeping with a prior agreement, committee chair, Pete Domenici (R/NM) released over the weekend an advance copy of the 1,100-page conference report to Senate Democrats for review. Chairman Domenici's strategy for passage of the bill includes the following:

- Conference Committee approval of the report on Monday, November 17
- House approval of the report on Tuesday, November 18
- Senate approval of the report on Thursday, November 20

While passage is easily expected in the House, the final outcome in the Senate remains uncertain until Democrats reveal whether or not they will approve the conference report in its present form. Readers of *INSIGHTS* should refer to the unchanged provisions of interest:

- Title I – Efficiency
- Title II- Renewables

To view provisions contained in *H.R. 6*, visit www.eere.energy.gov/femp/resources/initiatives.html and click on “House Legislative Initiatives.”

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III. STATUS OF FY 2004 APPROPRIATIONS BILLS

(In Millions)

HOUSE

SENATE

Jurisdiction/ FY 2004 Budget Request	302(b) Allocation s/ Approved Funding Level	Bill No.	Full Cmte. Mark Up	Floor Vote	Vote on Conf Rpt.	302(b) Allocations/ Approved Funding Level (New)	Bill No	Full Cmte. Mark Up	Floor Vote	Vote on Conf. Rpt.
Agriculture \$17,141	\$17,005	H.R. 2673	6/25	7/14		\$17,005	S. 1427	7/17	11/6	
Commerce \$37,685	\$37,914	H.R. 2799	7/16	7/23		\$37,014	S. 1585	9/4		
Defense \$371,698 P.L. 108-86	\$368,662	H.R. 2658	6/26	7/8	9/24	\$368,662	S. 1382	7/9	7/17	9/25
Energy and Water Development \$26,946	\$27,080	H.R. 2754	7/15	7/18	11/18	\$27,313	S. 1424	7/17	9/16	
Homeland Security \$27,481 P.L. 108-90	\$28,521	H.R. 2555	6/17	6/24	9/24	\$28,521	H.R. 2555	7/10	7/24	9/24
Interior \$19,552 P.L. 108-108	\$19,627	H.R. 2691	6/25	7/17	10/30	\$19,627	S. 1391	7/10	9/23	11/3
Labor / HHS \$137,990	\$138,046	H.R. 2660	6/25	7/10		\$137,601	S. 1356	6/26	9/10	
Military Construction \$9,237	\$9,196	H.R. 2559	6/17	6/26	11/5	\$9,196	S. 1357	6/26	7/11	11/12
Transportation and Treasury \$27,802	\$27,502	H.R. 2989	7/24	9/9	Week of 11/17	\$27,502	S. 1589	9/4	10/23	
VA/HUD \$89,434	\$90,034	H.R. 2861	7/21	7/25		\$90,034	S. 1584	9/4	11/17	

IV. NEW LEGISLATION

(Note: Once a new bill is introduced, the Government Printing Office generally requires from several days to one week to make the bill available in print)

HOUSE

No new legislation of interest to report.

SENATE

No new legislation of interest to report.

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V. ADMINISTRATION INITIATIVES

H.R. 6 – Energy Policy Act of 2003 On Friday, November 14, the President and Secretary of Energy Spencer Abraham released separate statements regarding the Conference Committee’s report on *H.R. 6*.

President Bush

I applaud the House and Senate for reaching agreement on a comprehensive energy bill. America will be safer and stronger with a national energy policy that will help keep the lights on, the furnaces lit, and the factories running. A good energy bill is part of my six-point economic plan to create the conditions for job creation and a sustained recovery. By making America less reliant on foreign sources of energy, we also will make our Nation more secure. I commend the Congress for its hard work on this important issue.

Secretary Abraham

Congress has crafted a comprehensive and balanced energy bill that reflects the President’s energy priorities and will be an important investment in ensuring America’s energy security and economic vitality. I urge the Congress to pass this energy bill before the end of the year.

Office of Federal Procurement Policy On November 4, the President announced his plans to nominate David Hossein Safavian to the post of Administrator for Federal Procurement Policy. Mr. Safavian is currently the Chief of Staff for the General Services Administration.

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VI. HEARINGS SCHEDULE

HOUSE – COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

No hearings of interest to report.

HOUSE – AUTHORIZATIONS/OVERSIGHT

No hearings of interest to report.

SENATE – COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

No hearings of interest to report.

SENATE – AUTHORIZATIONS/OVERSIGHT

Date/Committee	Chair	Hearing Title/Issues	Witnesses	Time/ Location
November 19 - Subcommittee on Oversight of Government Management, the Federal Workforce, and the District of Columbia (Committee on Governmental Affairs)	George Voinovich (R/OH)	Hearing – Keeping the Lights On: The Federal Role in Managing the Nation's Electricity, Part Two – Hearing will examine the August 2003 Northeast blackouts and the Federal role in managing the nation's electricity; hearing will focus on DOE's recently released report on the blackouts.	TBD	2:30 p.m. Room 342 Dirksen Office Building

(NEW)

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE NEGOTIATIONS AND FLOOR VOTES

Date and Action Item	Topic	Location
<i>November 17</i>	<i>H.R. 2861/ S. 1584 – FY 2004 Appropriations for Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development</i>	TBA
Senate Vote		
(NEW)		
<i>November 17</i>	<i>H.R. 6 – Energy Policy Act of 2003</i>	2 p.m. Room 106 Dirksen Office Building
Conference Committee Vote		
House Vote (November 18)		TBA
Senate Vote (November 19 – Tentative)		TBA
(NEW)		
<i>Week of November 17</i>	<i>H.Rpt. 108-243 – Conference Report for H.R. 2989/S. 1589- FY 2004 Appropriations for Transportation, Treasury, and Independent Agencies</i>	TBA
House Vote		
(Tentative)		
<i>November 18</i>	<i>H.Rpt. 108-357 – Conference Report for H.R. 2754/S. 1424 – FY 2004 Appropriations for Energy and Water Development</i>	TBA
House Vote		
(NEW)		

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